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NEGRO WELFARE LEAGUE
OF
NEW JERSEY.

March 12, 1917.

Present:- Rev. Scott Saunders, 10 S. 16th St., East Orange, Rev. J. P. E. Love, 267 High Street, Hackensack, Rev. E. E. Eggleston, Mr. Holman, Rev. W. J. Jones, Mrs. Pauline Baxter, Rev. O. M. Bonfield, Rev. R. D. Brown, Rev. R. Brown, Mrs. Eugene Gregory, Rev. T. R. Hadd, Mrs. Brazier and granddaughter, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. C. Marton Brown, Mr. J. M. Vandervall, Mr. R. W. Stewart.

The second meeting of the Mass Meeting Committee was held at 249 Mulberry Street on the above date. Rev. A. N. Tubbs, chairman, presiding.

The Chairman explained that the meeting was called to discuss further a change of date as Dr. Credit could not be present on the 16th of April as had been proposed at the last meeting. Rev. Mr. Jones moved which was duly seconded and approved that if the 19th of April proved agreeable to the speakers that that date be settled upon.

The next business proposed was that of having a special Negro Welfare League Sunday so that the people should understand the objects of the League and support the Mass Meeting with enthusiasm. The suggestion being an extension of Mr. Sadler's proposal at the last meeting. After various suggestions from the Rev. Mr. Love who thought perhaps the meetings should be on different Sundays and Mr. Jones who proposed that the 6th of March or the following Sunday might be arranged, and Mr. R. M. Brown who suggested a longer time in each church, on that Sunday be given than the ten minutes proposed, it was finally moved by Mrs. Gregory and duly seconded and approved that Sunday April 1 be set aside as Negro Welfare League Sunday, in all the Churches, who will be asked to allow ten minutes, at least for a speaker to give information concerning the League and the Mass Meeting. It is understood, of course, that the Ministers have latitude to choose another Sunday if this date proved too inconvenient.

It was also informally suggested by the Chairman that a Committee of the Baptist Ministers be urged to see the White Baptist Ministers and gain their cooperation for this meeting. Rev. Mr. Love of Hackensack mentioned a ministerial conference to be held there and will try to get an invitation for a speaker to appear before that conference.

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It was moved by Rev. T. R. Kedd duly seconded and approved that all expenses connected with the Mass Meeting be paid by the League.

Mr. C. M. Brown suggested there should be ushers to attend to seating the people in the Church and to collect the cards and money that may be subscribed. Mrs. Baxter suggested that these ushers be ladies.

It was moved by Rev. J. R. Brown, duly seconded and approved that Mrs. Baxter be asked to take the Chairmanship of the Ushers Committee, with full power to act.

Rev. J. R. Brown moved, duly seconded and carried that Mr. Russell, organist of the First Presbyterian Church where the meeting will be held, to play a number of selections while the people are assembling.

It was also informally decided that some congregational singing may be included at the close of the meeting.

Rev. E. E. Eggleston and Rev. R. D. Brown suggested that the meeting should be business-like and short.

A discussion followed as to programs and leaflets to announce the Mass Meeting. Rev. E. E. Eggleston proposed that Mr. Holmes of the Public Announcer be asked to include a notice of this meeting in his leaflet. Miss Fendleton said she would communicate with Mr. J. R. Brown who will see Mr. Holmes.

Rev. E. E. Eggleston moved which was duly seconded and approved that Mrs. Gregory and Miss Fendleton be asked to take care of the printing.

Mr. Vandervall asked for information concerning what the League was doing. He is interested in the matter of getting the Southern Negroes on New Jersey farms. The Farmer's Grange is desirous of locating such help in the Southern part of the State.

Rev. J. R. Brown warned of the difficulty of getting the farmers to house whole families. This was considered a further reason for trying to help the Southern Negro get good places on farms.

It was informally suggested that Mr. Vandervall take an active interest in this matter and report such names and places that he knows of to the office.

Miss Fendleton announced that the Associated Charities had ~~has stationed in having been able to engage Miss Stratton as~~ an Assistant Secretary, who will come on the first of April and be detailed to work for the League.

There being no further business for the meeting it was adjourned to meet at the call of the Chairman.

John B. Smith